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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

3-24-1848

Letter from William Wood to James B. Finley

William Wood

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Rev'd James P. Finley
Dear Sir

I would not presume to trouble
you upon your time and numerous duties did not
the nature of the Case which I will explain seem
to demand it

A very worthy Young man by the name of John M^r D^r Mitchell who has been employed for several months past by Messrs Goudy & Berry of our City has a wife in your County Lunatic Asylum before he placed her there he made application to the State Institution but could not obtain admission for her, as there was not room at that time

Mr. Mitchell has been sick for more than two months and is evidently unable to attend to any business, and it is very doubtful whether he will ever recover, and in the event of his death he would leave his wife penniless and without a relative to take care of her

Mrs. Mitchell is a native of our city but removal
some two or three years since to Indiana when
W^r M^r was engaged in the mercantile business
until a short time after his wife became deranged
on account of the death of her brother he then sold
his interest in the establishment and traveled
with her in hopes she would regain her reason
and in that way exhausted all his means

and is now unable to pay the \$15 per month which
it is necessary to keep her there - he is very much
affected in mind at the thought of being obliged
to remove her as the Superintendent reports her
convalescent and is extremely anxious that
she should remain under treatment until she
shall be entirely recovered - And under all the
circumstances did not know of any person
who would be so likely to succeed in getting
her into the State Institution as yourself and
if you will make the effort I can assure you
from my own knowledge of the parties that
it will be rendering an act of benevolence
and humanity seldom presented to us
for consideration

Your afft Sister

Civ. March 24 1848 Wm Wood

Do what you can for Henry
It is a case of Mercy
Yours B. Grinnell